



FY24 Operating Budget

Preliminary Budget Overview
and Department Requests

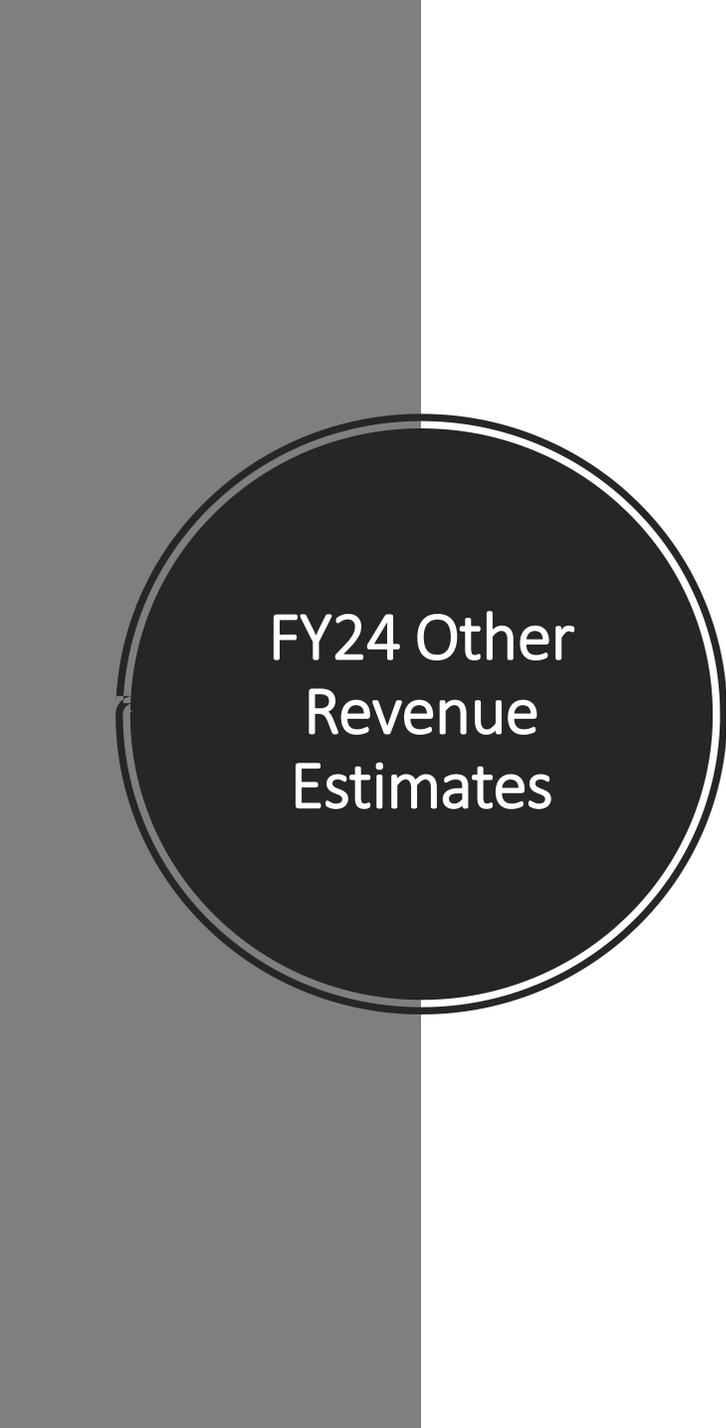
FY24 Revenue Assumptions

FY24 Revenue Assumptions

- Property tax levy increases by 2 ½ % plus projected new growth
- Local receipts level funded
- 2% increase in state aid
- Use of \$479,343 in free cash, same as FY23
 - Leaves free cash balance of \$161,138

FY24 Real Estate Revenue Projections

Tax Revenue	Amount
Prior Year Levy Limit	\$10,685,152
2 ½ Increase	\$267, 129
New Growth	\$110,000
Excluded Debt	\$326,025
Levy Limit	\$11,388,306



FY24 Other
Revenue
Estimates

Other Revenue	Amount
State Aid	\$362,232
Local Receipts	\$750,000
Free Cash	\$479,343
Water Enterprise	\$190,900
Trash Revolving Fund	\$140,000
TOTAL	\$1,921,774

FY24
Revenue
Projections

Revenue	Amount
Real Estate Taxes	\$11,388,306
Other Revenue	\$1,921,774
TOTAL REVENUE	\$13,310,079

FY24 Spending Assumptions

FY24 Spending Assumptions

- Health insurance assumes 5% increase
- 2% salary increases for all non-union employees
- Property/casualty assumes 1% increase
- 11% increase in school spending, as presented
- Retirement assessment reduced by 6.25% (actual)
- Debt payments based on debt schedule
- Expenditures presented are based on department requests

Overview:
 FY24
 Department
 Spending
 Requests

EXPENSE	AMOUNT	PERCENT INCREASE
General Government	\$681,011	4%
Public Safety	\$1,904,850	7%
Schools	\$8,737,770	11%
Public Works	\$1,174,836	30%
Human Services	\$78,382	-2%
Library & Recreation	\$319,671	8%
Town Debt Service	\$187,693	-30%
Insurance & Assessments	\$934,764	-1%
Total Town Budget	\$14,016,006	10%

Detail: FY24 Department Spending Requests

FY24 Department Requests:

- Police Department: 8% increase (\$103,542)
 - Major causes:
 - Wages (\$70,246), radio communications/dispatch (\$8,700), new cruiser (\$13,000 increase; \$61,000 total)
- Fire Department: 5% increase (\$17,736)
 - Major causes: PPE (\$16,000), Fuel, repairs, and maintenance (\$12,000), EMS equipment and supplies (\$5,000)
- Treasurer/Collector: 25% increase (\$21,129)
 - Major causes:
 - 1 PT staff (\$11,129) and tax title properties (\$10,000)
- Town Hall: 8% increase (\$3,770)
 - Major causes:
 - Energy and utilities (\$3,770)
- Accountant: 17% (\$11,071)
 - Major causes:
 - Accountant services (\$5,400) and annual audit (\$5,000)

Detail: FY24 Department Spending Requests

FY24 Department Requests

- Town Counsel: 7% increase (\$2,000)
- Highway Department: 41% increase (\$232,334)
 - Major causes:
 - 1 new FT employee (\$54,011.21), paving (\$133,000), building repairs and maintenance (\$25,000), catch basin cleaning and sweeping (\$10,000), communication (\$10,000)
- Snow and Ice: 11% increase (\$31,096)
 - Major causes:
 - Outside Plow Companies (\$21,096) and vehicular supplies (\$10,000)
- Transfer Station: 41% increase (\$8,000)
 - Major causes:
 - Supplies and services (\$5,000) and professional and technical (\$3,000)
- IT: 17% increase (\$5,000)
 - Major causes:
 - Cybersecurity (\$5,000)
- Parks: 24% increase (\$13,500)
 - Major causes
 - Property related services (\$11,000), purchases services (\$3,000)

Most
significant
budget
increases

Expense	Increase
School Department	\$858,949
Highway Department	\$232,334
Police Department	\$103,542
TOTAL	\$1,194,825

FY22/FY23/FY24 Operating Budget Comparison: Expenditures

			Actual	TA Proposed	Actual	Dept. Requests	% Increase
			<u>FY22</u>	<u>FY23</u>	<u>FY23</u>	<u>FY24</u>	<u>FY24</u>
Total Town Operating			4,275,293	4,656,882	4,656,882	5,090,543	9%
Total School Operating			7,307,786	7,878,821	7,878,821	8,737,770	11%
Total Debt(Town)			298,828	269,563	269,563	187,693	-30%
Overlay -							
Abatements/Exemptions			138,107	30,000	29,368	30,000	2%
Cherry Sheet Charges			3,200	3,848	3,848	4,000	4%
Water Enterprise			181,500	190,199	190,199	190,199	0%
Curbside Trash Pickup Expenses			120,000	120,000	120,000	140,000	17%
Town Warrant Articles Only			145,450	29,721	29,724		-100%
Other			90,986		32,019		-100%
Community Preservation			502,708		433,000	-	-100%
	Total Expenses		13,063,859	13,179,034	13,643,424	14,380,205	5%

FY22/FY23/FY24 Operating Budget Comparison: Revenues

	Actual	TA Proposed	Actual	Dept. Requests	% Increase
	FY22	FY23	FY23	FY24	FY24
Prior Year Levy Limit	9,682,432	10,300,200	10,300,200	10,685,152	4%
2 1/2 % Allowed Increase	244,241	257,505	258,152	267,129	3%
New & Amended Growth	248,527	100,000	126,800	110,000	-13%
FY22 Override - Police Department	125,000	0	0	0	
Levy Limit	10,300,200	10,657,705	10,685,152	11,062,281	4%
Excluded Debt	365,120	476,591	475,253	326,025	-31%
Capital Expenditure Exclusion			188,974		-100%
Maximum Allowable Levy	10,665,320	11,134,296	11,349,379	11,388,306	0%
Cherry Sheet Receipts (State Aid)	327,260	333,990	355,129	362,232	2%
Local Receipts	700,000	767,800	748,267	750,000	0%
Transfer Stabilization					
Free Cash for Operating Expenses	459,343	479,343	479,343	479,343	0%
Free Cash for Town Articles	145,450	29,721	29,724		-100%
Free Cash for GDRSD Capital	64,202				
Community Preservation	502,708		433,000		-100%
Other Revenue	44,820		12,397		
Water Enterprise	181,500	190,199	190,199	190,199	0%
Overlay Surplus (Abatements)					
Est. Receipts & Other Rev.	2,425,283	1,801,053	2,248,059	1,781,774	-21%
Total Available Revenue	13,090,603	12,935,349	13,597,438	13,170,079	-3%
Excess Levy Capacity	146,745		74,014		
Trash Revolving Account	120,000	120,000	120,000	140,000	17%
Total Amount to be Appropriated	13,063,858	13,055,349	13,643,424	13,310,079	-2%
Starting Free Cash Balance		527,737		640,481	
Available Free Cash Balance		18,673		161,138	

FY24 Operating Budget Variance

Numbers based on initial revenue estimates and department budget requests

- Total Revenues: \$13,310,079
- Total Expenditures: 14,380,205
- Variance: **1,070,126**

Comparable Community Comparisons

Communities with between 3250 and 3750 people and budgets between \$11 million and \$14 million

Municipality	County	Tax Levy	State Aid	Local Receipts	Enterprise & CPA Funds	Other Revenue	Total Budget	Tax Levy as % of Budget	State Aid as % of Budget	Local Receipts as % of Budget	All Other as % of Budget
Brimfield	HAMPDEN	8,281,754	1,959,202	657,744	0	955,179	11,853,879	69.87	16.53	5.55	8.06
Brookfield	WORCESTER	5,872,134	2,684,933	969,000	0	984,872	10,510,940	55.87	25.54	9.22	9.37
Cheshire	BERKSHIRE	4,526,126	859,957	819,200	450,516	413,200	6,618,483	68.39	12.99	12.38	6.24
Dunstable	MIDDLESEX	10,518,575	332,752	700,000	684,208	713,815	12,265,143	85.76	2.71	5.71	5.82
Hatfield	HAMPSHIRE	8,454,198	2,202,053	726,840	1,755,064	1,286,204	12,669,295	66.73	17.38	5.74	10.15
Princeton	WORCESTER	9,612,338	608,140	956,500	21,000	1,178,305	12,355,283	77.80	4.92	7.74	9.54
Sheffield	BERKSHIRE	9,548,765	447,007	1,301,800	170,910	489,723	11,787,295	81.01	3.79	11.04	4.15
Sunderland	FRANKLIN	6,449,150	2,082,909	755,204	536,050	915,895	10,203,158	63.21	20.41	7.40	8.98

Municipality	County	General Government	Police	Fire	Other Public Safety	Education	Public Works	Human Services	Culture and Recreation	Fixed Costs	Intergovernment	Other Expenses	Debt Service
Brimfield	HAMPDEN	545,376	354,545	160,558	330,545	6,151,825	924,882	206,832	119,207	819,903	85,751	0	4,038,374
Brookfield	WORCESTER	720,934	498,269	140,612	541,536	4,875,955	683,479	93,024	160,905	1,008,619	129,263	0	164,287
Cheshire	BERKSHIRE	533,426	181,751	47,085	61,285	3,406,164	968,173	119,208	14,162	376,244	30,382	17,984	227,676
Dunstable	MIDDLESEX	613,575	1,130,590	319,057	82,881	7,078,404	578,557	53,564	252,706	720,258	3,188	0	308,227
Hatfield	HAMPSHIRE	884,005	233,453	225,679	129,511	5,028,587	1,081,181	155,609	121,277	1,380,802	556	47,105	257,128
Princeton	WORCESTER	802,043	850,771	325,868	117,031	5,619,201	1,247,485	129,850	204,633	733,236	27,407	0	422,914
Sheffield	BERKSHIRE	728,735	497,780	239,895	56,310	7,476,994	696,926	193,414	182,039	607,567	31,860	84,229	0
Sunderland	FRANKLIN	799,411	506,958	93,551	225,482	4,931,857	450,656	72,058	182,103	748,920	276,415	0	369,831

Data is from FY2021

Unresolved Issues Affecting FY24 Budget

- Cherry Sheet/Local Aid/State Assessments
- Capital Requests/Needs
- Water Board and Cemetery Budget Submittals
- Final School District Budget and Capital
- Health Insurance Increase

FY24 Budget Process Update and Next Steps

Budget Process Update and Next Steps

- Department budget worksheets have all been submitted to the Town Administrator (except for Cemetery and Water Board).
- Initial meetings have started with departments this week and will continue through the end of the week.
- School Committee has a budget meeting planned for February 8 and a Budget Public Hearing on February 15.
- Over the next month, need to schedule regular budget meetings with Advisory Board and Select Board to review and discuss progress, work with departments, make decisions, etc.